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Unmercifully Whipped.

GEORGE EDENS BEAT BLACK

Little Boy in First Grade
Badly Handled by His Teacher

Another Child in Same Grade Expelled

Last Thursday the town was thrown into a fever of excitement over the report that a child had been unmercifully whipped in school by the first grade teacher, Miss Olive Newton. The little fellow is a son of John D. Edens and a grandson of Maj. Gideon M. Lynch. Everybody who knows the Lynch's and Edens' knows that as good blood flows through their veins as anybody in the county. George, the child whipped, bears a good reputation at school, and for him to be beat up the way he was is a disgrace to a civilized community. He had done nothing to receive this unmerciful beating; he was accused of taking a little magnet from one of his schoolmates, but he, his desk-mate, and others, stated he picked it up off of the floor, and he did not try to conceal it. He was carried out and literally wore out; his back was as blue as indigo, and he was a mass of bruises from his head to his heels, and to-day his flesh is all puffed up and looks like it had been painted with iodine, while the stripes on his legs can hardly be hid by laying the finger over them and are still great ridges. The children in higher grades, people who can tell a connected story, say it was one of the awfullest beatings a child ever got, and was of such long duration that it got on to the nerves of the scholars in Prof. Swittenburg's room.

Granted the child had stolen the magnet, then that was clearly a case to have been carried to the parents for settlement, and if not carried there, Mr. Swittenburg is the principal of the school and the charge should have been laid before him and he should have taken the matter in hand.

This school is operated under the graded school system, and all graded schools usually have printed rules, and all matters are carried to the parents before whippings are given. Here the school is run in a slipshod, harum-scarum way, no rules, no self-respect, no nothing, and the teachers, through the principal, fly to the trustees for settlement of some dispute; some are settled by them as they see fit, while some others are passed by. Fairness, impartiality and an over-weening desire to do the very best they can by the pupils should be the aim of the teachers, but, so far, they have fallen far short of the "mark of the high calling."

Miss Newton is still teaching and there is where, in the eyes of the good people, she has made a grave mistake. Knowing, as she does, the sentiment against her, she ought to have handed in her resignation, and, as she has failed to do so, the board of trustees ought to demand it, if, as they claim, they are wanting

a good school here and are working for the best interests of the school at all times.

Prof. Swittenburg told Mrs. Edens that the child was whipped too much—unmercifully whipped—and he would be glad if they could compromise the case on a money basis, as by taking it to trial it would burst up the school. That is all right—let it burst up the school—if punishment of that severe character can be laughed off, children bluffed out of school on any old pretext, the teachers do as they please, run things to suit themselves, and with a high-hand, and are upheld by the board of trustees in everything, be it right or wrong, then it is high time the cards were shuffled and a new hand run off.

Burst up the school! Bah! Nothing on earth could burst up this school if the teachers do their whole duty and the trustees would see that they did do their whole duty and would quit taking sides with them under the plea of bursting up the school if they don't. Give us a new deal—new teachers and new trustees—if we can't get what we want out of what we have got.

Parents, you have a right to know how your children are taught. The public is entitled to a full knowledge of what is going on. There is nothing in a school system that should be concealed from the people. EVERYTHING should be known, and explained and proved. It is fair to say that a school system should be kept before the people's notice, and made conspicuous. The public does not object to spending money freely if they can see where it goes, and knows that it is expended wisely. In the light of developments some money is being spent here unwisely.

Gray hairs a great many times indicate that "gray" matter is on top of, rather than in, the head.

This matter of child-beating is passing rapidly; the better schools of the larger cities are being ruled by love, with competent teachers, rather than with the rod. The children here are not such fools, nor are they so bad, that they could not be ruled with firmness and kind means. A teacher that gets on her nerves should get out of the schoolroom. The schoolroom is no place for nervous people. A teacher to win the respect of the pupils and the support of the patrons should be fair and treat all alike, with justice, moderately administered, and tempered with mercy. Children are naturally fair-minded and resent injustice. They are quick to detect and resent favoritism. Impatience vents itself on the dull or the indifferent and apparently vicious. If there is one boy in all the school with which the teacher should be eternally patient and whom they would resolve to save at all cost, it is the one whom they would most like to get rid of. Every child is entitled to a chance, and a good one. He is entitled to a good mother and a good father, and to a good teacher—but there are some people who are not fit to be schoolteachers. It is not

in everybody to be a teacher, not every one has a teacher's instinct, nor the teacher's attitude. So those who cannot, ought not to try. Those who care not, should not be permitted. The teacher is but a man, for all his parading about and looking wise. If,

"Like turbaned Turk, with whiskers curled,
He struts around and scorns the world,"

just let him. You have certain rights that you should insist upon, and which the teacher should be made to respect. You have a right to be treated fairly, politely, with consideration. If this is not done, you have redress at the hands of the trustees, and from there to the county board, and from there to the State Board of Education.

Those who punish the most accomplish the least, especially where favoritism is shown—some being punished, while others are allowed to go scot free, as has been the case in the Pickens school, in some instances. The rod is a very poor disciplinarian and force has never yet developed a good man out of a mean boy. Suspension should be the RARE EVENT—corporal punishment, NEVER. You can lead but you can't drive a child, and they are quick to discern the discriminations of teachers toward the scholars and to interpret their attitude toward the child.

The charge against Miss Newton was assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and a warrant was given on this charge. Prof. Swittenburg was also indicted on the charge of aiding and abetting and being an accessory. The preliminary was set to be heard before Squire Bramlett on next Saturday, but the preliminary has been waived and the case has gone up to the sessions court which will convene in June.

We deeply deplore the fact of this having occurred; we sympathize with the teachers that they have this charge against them and we hate that the school is in such a chaotic state from the occurrence, and that it will cause a diversity of opinion and a division of friendship. All of this could have been prevented had tact and judgment been used.

A Protest.

I will take a seat over there by "Clevie," if she doesn't object. Hello, you correspondents. How are you all getting along these days? Fine, I guess. Now, let us take some subject and write on it, and quit writing so much about school chaps visiting. Who cares about them visiting? I'm sure I don't.

Suppose we write on drunkenness, the use of tobacco and profane language. Any one of these subjects would be interesting, don't you all think so?

So let us all join together and say we will not keep company with any young man that will get drunk, use tobacco or indulge in profane language. Maybe it would save some young man from a drunkard's grave, and might keep him from breaking his poor mother's heart. You know we girls have great influ-

ence over the young men, if we would just use it. What do you all say about it? Don't you all think there would be better times in the old world?

What has become of "Papa's Girl?" We would be glad for her to come again.

The Ambler school closed last Friday.

B. M. Clark died last Friday morning, after a long and severe illness, and to rest at Cross Roads church the day following. He leaves a wife and a host of relatives and friends to mourn his death. We will all miss him from our midst; but the Lord saw fit to take him away. We will all have to follow sooner or later, so let us live that when He shall come for us we may be ready to go to live with our Savior and loved ones that are waiting for us on that bright shore. DAISY.

Five Children in One Year

The attention of President Roosevelt has been called to quite an extraordinary occurrence in South Carolina—the birth of five children from one mother in one year. The following extract copied from the letter sent to the president tells the tale:

"Mr. and Mrs. Elford Balington, aged 30 and 33, respectively, who were born and are now living in Lexington county, S. C., have had five pretty, healthy children born to them within the last year. Mr. and Mrs. Balington are a white, respectable family living on a small farm in very moderate circumstances.

"The sweet little baby girls (triplets) were born sometime in January, 1907, and bear the names of Bessie Beulah, Lessie Leulah and Essie Eulah. They are now a year old, well developed and enjoying good health.

"The twins were born the latter part of last month, and the parents have every belief that they will raise them.

"The boy of the twins bears the distinguished name of Theodore Roosevelt Balington, and the baby girl is equally distinguished by having the given names of Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Longworth.

"Lexington county is in the district which Hon. A. F. Lever represents in congress, and racial suicide is foreign to its inhabitants."

The facts of the letter are verified by several prominent citizens of that section, including Postmaster Bodie, Mrs. J. C. Kimard and others.

Although nothing has been learned as to what the president thinks of the incident, it is certain that it meets with his many times repeated views on the race suicide question.

Four More Years of Theodore.

Some fool newspaper, published out in California, has started a sort of "endless chain" petition, asking the Hon. Theodore Roosevelt to "save the country," by accepting a third term as president.

We are in receipt of a marked copy, asking us to join in the petition—but we are not a "jiner." And, even if we were

God forbid that we should join a movement calling for "four more years of Theodore."

That the country has survived a little over seven years of him already is the best evidence of its strength and greatness—but four more would be tempting fate too far.

True, the gentleman may need four more years—or four hundred, as for that matter—to enable him to accomplish what he has started out to accomplish. But the Lord, Himself, didn't undertake to make everybody honest; and we don't believe Theodore Roosevelt can do it even if he were made "first consul for life."

In his bombastic effort to do so, however—or, rather, his effort to make the world believe that the majority of people in this country are dishonest—he has slandered American citizens to such an extent that the devil, himself, wouldn't have anything to do with them. He has utterly destroyed our credit at home and abroad, and replaced general prosperity with universal panic.

If he has done anything except upset conditions—and particularly precedents—during the seven years and more that he has been in the White House, we have failed to discover it.

He evidently went in to make a name for himself—and, God knows, he has done it. But at what price to the country at large; both in respect to its reputation, its peace and prosperity!

"Four more years of Theodore?" No—not unless the Lord is still mad with us.

A theorist, like Theodore, may be just the man for president of some socialist colony, like New Zealand; but a great big, live, throbbing nation like the United States of America needs a normal man at the helm.

True, it can survive most any sort—but that's a tribute to the country itself, not the man. And seven years or so of "rough riding" ought to be about enough to last even this country a generation or two.—[Augusta Chronicle.

Some children act as if it were a constant surprise to them that their parents had the excellent taste to pick them out.—[Nantucket Inquirer.

Mrs. Ogden Mills will import a royal fashion to Newport next season when she will take her daily ride behind a pair of cream-colored horses. In order to have a pair of animals ready for any occasion she has obtained half a dozen of the finest money can buy. They are perfectly matched and of far more striking appearance than the whitest of white horses.

Find your purpose and fling your life out to it, and the more lofty your purpose is the more sure you will be to make the world richer with every enrichment of yourself.—[Rev. Philip Brooks.

"Is he a great doctor?" "Well, his patients are always at the head of the procession."—[Nashville American.